better. When the Prasar Bharati comes into being, these are to be examined within four comers of the Act.

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: Will the Minister not examine the possibility of another public corporation to compete with the Prasar Bharati instead of giving another channel to a private corporation?

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: I will make it clear. In our manifesto we made a mention of public corporation and not private corporation... *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: But in your answer today you said, "private corporation"... *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Why I said so is because the public corporation which is being thought of and envisaged in our manifesto is not a public corporation like a statutory corporation or like the Damodar Valley Corporation. It may be a limited company floated by shares. Unless this is done the free flow of information cannot be achieved... *(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is ever.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Establishment of Small Scale Industries in Assam

*164. DR. NAjQEN SAIKIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of permits issued by fhe Government of India for establishment of small scale industries in Assam in 1989-90; and

(b) what amount has been released in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) Government of India do not issue permits for establishment of small scale industries.

(b) Doe9 not arise.

### Privatisation of T. V. and Radio network

*165. PROF. SOURENDRA £HATTACHARJEE:
SHRI, JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING /be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow private operators to utilise an ad ditional channel in the existing T. V. and Radio networks;

(b) if so. under what conditions such facility would be provided and the Tea-sons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to make the media autonomous?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING |KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) The Government is committed to offer to public corporations whion conform to parameters to be laid down by law. broadcasting and telecasting rights and to allow them to complete with Prasar Bharati. However, it is not possible *to* spell out the details at this stage as the modalitiels for achieving this objective require extensive study before these are firmed np.

### Rolling back the prices of edible oils

166. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government hav$_e$ worked out the scheme to roll back the prices of edible oils to July, 1990 level; if so, what are details thereof.

(b) what are prices of edible oils in July, 1990 and its current prices; and

(c) whether Government propose to give subsidy for this commodity; if not